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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/800,739	03/08/2001	Sang Un Jin	0630-1244P	4768

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BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH
PO BOX 747
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER

KOSTAK, VICTOR R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2611	

DATE MAILED: 07/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/800,739

Applicant(s)

Jin

Examiner

Victor R. Kostak

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle* 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____

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1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Note MPEP 606.01.

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the features recited in claims 14-16 describing hardware must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). The only device arrangement is shown in Fig. 1 which applicant describes as being prior art. No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The preamble of claim 14 is highly ambiguous. The phrase "... *by being inputted outer signal source, ...*" seems to indicate that an external source is in view, but it is not clear.

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(Applicant seems to recite "outer" instead of the more common term "external" regarding system component relationships).

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art.

Applicant's description of the prior art spanning pages 2-6 of the specification covers the system hardware recited in claim 1. The user of the system shown would naturally figure out the state of speaker connections rather easily by listening to or observing specific connectivity of the speakers at the point of connection to the A/V system. As applicant describes, the menus are received with the A/V programs based on the selected source 1-4. Upon recognition of the source selected and the speakers connected, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to recognize that some of the menus cannot be usable based on the source and speaker connectivity, although it may not be convenient or immediately carried out, thereby meeting claim 1.

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The features recited in the dependent claims are also accounted for by applicant in the prior art description (i.e. input sources, output terminals, user manipulation, and service types)

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for a patent published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for a patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for the purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jordan et al.

The system of Jordan (noting particularly Figs. 1, 2, 2A, 22 and 24) includes displaying video on a monitor (display 130, 140 in Fig. 1) of a digital television system (e.g. claim 7), wherein external audio may be connected by way of external speakers or amplifiers (col. 6 lines 59-63), and wherein audio menus are used which can specify audio connections and related preference settings (col. 12 lines 43-45; Figs. 22, 24), the overall system requiring control according to CPU 105.

6. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jordan et al.

Jordan points out that external speakers and amplifiers can be connected to and selected as user preferences, as pointed out above. Although he does not specify to what the external

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amplifier is connected, one of ordinary skill in the art would have logically considered the external amplifier to be connected to the television monitor since the audio source is from a broadcast A/V program initially received by the television, to which the external speakers and amplifiers are connected and selected by the user.

7. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jordan et al. in view of Waldron or Brown.

It would have been obvious to use female connectors for enabling ready connectivity and disconnectivity of the sound reproducing devices, in effect performing switching (i.e. indicating "on/off" conditions), as taught by Brown (Fig. 2) or Waldron (Fig. 2).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor R. Kostak whose telephone number is (703)-305-4374. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 6:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew I. Faile, can be reached on (703) 305-4380. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone (703) 306-0377.

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Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

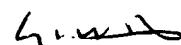
or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (For either formal or informal communications intended for entry. For informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Victor R. Kostak

Primary Examiner



VRK

6/30/03